



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

Mer. Take him, I am glad to get quit of him, for he has disturbed us all morning, swearing and talking like a fool. His tongue has not been at rest five minutes, these two hours, tumbling out nonsense in heaps, and abusing every body about him—Gentlemen, I am now going to give you a treat. Here is a precious article, indeed; nothing less I assure you, than the celebrated Mrs. Mary Anne Cl—ke. A.Z.

To be continued.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

IN the Repository of Theology and general Literature for the last month, I find the following just censure on Thomas Clarkson, for his want of discrimination of character, when, in his History of the Abolition of the Slave Trade, he equally praises Fox and Pitt for the parts they respectively took in that business. The remarks are so congenial with my own, on reading that generally interesting work, that I beg permission for their insertion in your next number. The finesse of the one Statesman forms a contrast with the decided measures of the other. Nor should praise be withheld from Lord Grenville, whose last public act in office, was procuring the royal assent to the act which stamped this nefarious trade with legislative reprobation. This one circumstance shows how legislative assemblies in the present day are influenced, and how obsequious they are to the nod of the minister for the time being. The reason for abolishing this trade in 1791 and 1792 were as forcible, as in 1806; but in the former years truth and justice pleaded in vain; and in 1806 the just and necessary measure was carried, because Fox and Grenville, being ministers, were honest men.

A READER.

“Mr. Pitt was a speech maker, and could declaim as well upon the enormities of the Slave-trade, as upon the horrors of Jacobinism. His eloquence in behalf of the Africans, in the years 1790 and 1792, captivated both his friends and enemies. But why, it may be asked, did he not use his almost irresistible influence to abolish the evil

he so pathetically deplored? Was he strong only on the side of tyranny and aggression? It must be a subject of melancholy reflection to his admirers to think, that after all his declarations and protestations, he permitted the British slave trade to increase from an importation of 25,000 to an importation of 57,000 negroes in two years, ending 1798, by the capture of the Dutch and other settlements. If he had issued in 1797 the order of council 1805, above 30,000 negroes per annum would have been saved! What Mr. Pitt, who was prime minister of this country, with boundless power, for twenty years, could not, or would not effect, was accomplished by the Fox and Grenville ministry, which existed not so many months. But with them the matter was taken up on principle, and they staked their very being upon it. One of their first measures was to restrict the trade; they went on impairing it by degrees, and pledging the house, and preparing the country for its annihilation; and their very last act, was the glorious bill which wiped away this disgraceful traffic. And have they to divide the honour of this benevolent work with their predecessors, who, while they talked about it, *did* nothing to forward it! Let Mr. Clarkson answer this question, who with an impropriety most glaring, and injustice most shameful, dedicates his admirable “History of the Abolition,” equally to the names of Pitt and Fox. Mr. Fox’s friends disclaim the compliment, and the dedication will ever be an eye-sore in a work, which in other respects, benevolence would contemplate with unalloyed pleasure.”

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

THE ANCIENT MUSIC OF IRELAND ADAPTED TO THE PIANO FORTE.

MR. BUNTING is at present in London superintending this long expected collection, which is now *in the Press*, and will shortly be published with the highest embellishment of London Engravings. As the scope of this laborious undertaking, to which Mr. Bunting has devoted at least seventeen years, may not be known

to some of your readers, the following account of it will be acceptable.

A SUBSCRIBER.

IT is to comprehend, as nearly as practicable, the entire body of the ancient Music of this country; the whole making an aggregate of about an hundred and fifty melodies.

A number of original songs will be added, in their native language and character, with prose translations; and for several of the finest airs, arranged for the voice with an instrumental accompaniment, English words are prepared by Thomas Campbell, Esq. and others of acknowledged talents.

It will contain an old Irish lesson and prelude, played in this kingdom for several generations, and latterly, by DENNIS HEMPSSEN, the Harper of Magilligan, from whom it was taken down shortly before his decease: also two celebrated *Irish airs*, with their ancient *variations*, as practised on the Harp for many years.

With these are to be given, an original melody, or recitative, which the compiler had the fortune to discover, as sung in artless strains by the aborigines of different parts of Ireland, to the OSSIANIC lamentation of the celebrated *DEIRDRE* (*Deirdre*) for the sons of *USNEACH* (*Usneach*) together with a very ancient Highland air, a remnant of the music to which similar poems have been sung.

The music will be accompanied by an extensive Memoir on the Harp, of ancient and modern times. In this various original matter will be found on a subject at once curious and little explored—Particularly, the distinctive difference between the music of Ireland and that of neighbouring countries. An account of the principles upon which the Irish Harp is tuned and played—of a multiplicity of technical terms in the Irish language, respecting the instrument; its proportions, and measurements, as well as the alterations it has undergone from the Saxon times to the present—The affinity of the present Harp to still more ancient instruments will be traced, particularly to the harp of Egyptian Thebes. A comparative view is taken of the principal stringed instruments of antiquity; and an inquiry into the Highland

and Lowland music of Scotland; with an historical account of the Bagpipe.

The predominant object throughout has been to present the music, *unadulterated*, for which this island was celebrated from remote ages, and which occasioned the Harp to be quartered in her arms. It has fallen to the lot of the Compiler to rescue many airs, that in their native simplicity, lead directly to the heart, when they were on the point of being lost for ever. The only repositories of them some years ago have paid the debt of nature, since the commencement of this undertaking, leaving hardly a successor in their art.

From this imperfect abstract of a plan to which the Compiler has devoted so great a portion of his life, it will appear that his aim has been to gratify the curiosity of the Antiquarian, as well as to entertain the lover of music.

The whole is to be contained in two volumes folio, and an octavo volume, with elegant engravings to elucidate different parts of the subject. The music and engravings to be produced in the best style of the London Press.

The work is to be adorned by a drawing of the most beautiful Harp that has ever been discovered in Ireland; greatly superior in construction and ornament, to that preserved in the museum of Trinity College, Dublin, as the Harp of an ancient Irish monarch. Plate II. A representation of the ancient Irish Harp, played by Dennis Hempsen, of whom an accurate portrait was taken sometime before his death. Plate III. is to contain drawings of the stringed instruments of antiquity, for the purpose of comparing and appreciating the principles of their construction with those of the instrument under review. Plate IV. will exhibit diagrams of the musical instruments of the middle ages and more modern periods.

A work on such a subject, so difficult and expensive in execution, conducted by a person of whose musical attainments there is only one opinion, has high demands on the patronage of every gentleman and scholar, independently of every musical practitioner. The public taste, and

still more the reverence of every Irishman for the most ancient reliques of his country, are in some degree involved. These remains of other times almost any where else, would not to this day have remained in obscurity.

It will therefore give satisfaction to announce that the work has excited a strong interest throughout the united kingdom, particularly in Great Britain, where the subscription is receiving warm encouragement.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

ON THE CULTURE OF POTATOES.

AS the drill culture of Potatoes has for several years past been gaining ground in this country, and the Landholders are now generally convinced of its superiority over the lazy-bed mode, both as to produce and expense, I was surprized to see in No. 6, of the Magazine, a statement said to be taken from Rawson's Survey of Kildare, representing the lazy-bed way as most profitable.

I have looked into the extract as it is given in the Magazine for September, and find the statement is fairly made on one acre in the drill or rather bank mode, and one acre in the lazy-bed way; in the first there appears a profit of £21 1 1, and in the latter only £1 6 8. How the Gentleman from Castle-Upton could make such a mistake as to imagine that the last statement was for eight acres, when the author of the work expressly says he has given it for one acre only, I am at a loss to conjecture. Surely no person who is acquainted with the expense of planting Potatoes with the spade, could think that eight acres could be done in that way, at the small expense of £2 3 4 (very little more than five shillings per acre) or that the seed used would amount to no more than £2 0 0 (not five bushels to the acre). The only article of expense that seems extravagant is the dung—320 loads to an acre is certainly a greater quantity than we are in the habit of applying in this country, but if only one half of the dung was to be taken into the statement, it would still leave a balance of £12 7 9 in favour of the bank culture, a sum sufficiently great to induce any farmer to give it a fair trial.

BELFAST MAG. NO. VIII.

As to the advice given the Editor of rejecting all anonymous communications, he will know what value to set upon it. If Magazines and such other periodical works in this country, at least, were to receive nothing but what had signatures, I am afraid their numbers would be very scantily supplied with materials for the instruction or amusement of the public.

I have always thought that the value of such communications ought to be estimated by the importance of the subject and the soundness of the reasoning employed, and not the name of the author.

The Farmer's Magazine, published in Edinburgh, is principally composed of anonymous pieces, and yet it is held in great estimation, and is judged to have materially served the cause of Agriculture; having such a precedent I must beg leave to subscribe myself

March 1, 1809. A FARMER.

To the Editor of the Belfast Magazine.

SIR,

ILATELY observed a proposal, made by a Correspondent to one of the London Magazines, that all persons who were acquainted with successful cases of the application of any of the popular remedies used through the country, should make them known to the public, with the proper vouchers through the medium of some of the periodical publications: I also find that it has been adopted and acted upon, and that several cases of common remedies have been already published. Such a plan I think would be equally useful here, and therefore I take the liberty of recommending to you, to make known your wish to receive communications of this nature. I would also go farther, and invite communications not only of cases in which they have succeeded, but also where they have failed. The adage, *Felix quem faciunt aliena pericula cautum*, is no where so applicable as in the case of experimental medicine, in which the failure or success of a remedy depends as much on the mode and circumstances of the application as its intrinsic qualities. If you accede to this hint, I doubt not, but that it will be the means of furnishing the public with some new and interesting

B b